

## Remarks

Non-elected claim 31 is canceled.

Claims 1-30 will be pending upon entry of this amendment.

Claims 16-18, 20, 22-28 and 31 are withdrawn.

Claims 15, 19, 21, 29 and 30 are under consideration.

Upon finding the claims under consideration allowable, the Examiner is kindly requested to include further species and rejoin the withdrawn claims. Applicants point out that the present benzotriazole compounds are already patented in the grandparent application, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,649,770. As the present compounds are novel and patentable, any stabilized compositions including them are patentable.

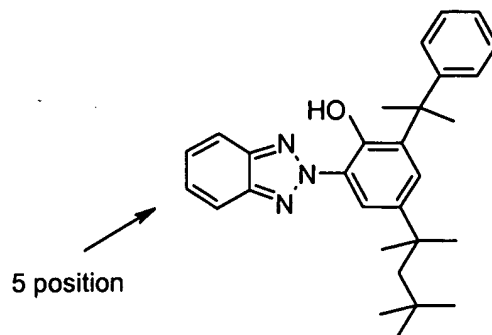
Claims 15, 19, 21, 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Trainor, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,296,674.

Applicants respectfully rebut the rejections.

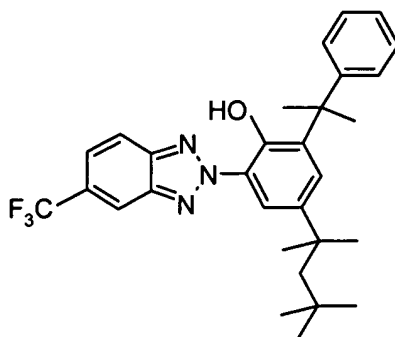
Applicants point out that the present benzotriazole compounds are already patented in the grandparent application, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,649,770. The present claims contain all the limitations of the claims of said patent.

Applicants have fully reviewed the disclosure of Trainor and can find no overlap with the benzotriazoles disclosed therein with the present benzotriazoles.

Again, the compounds of Trainor are 5-substituted benzotriazoles. That is, substituted at the 5 benzo position with a variety of substituents. For instance the benzotriazoles of Trainor are substituted as below:



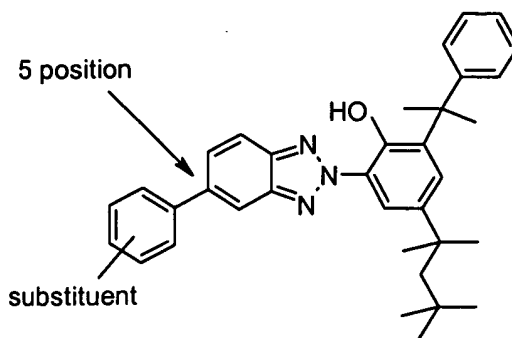
When substituted in the 5 position by a  $-CF_3$  group, a compound of Trainor would be:



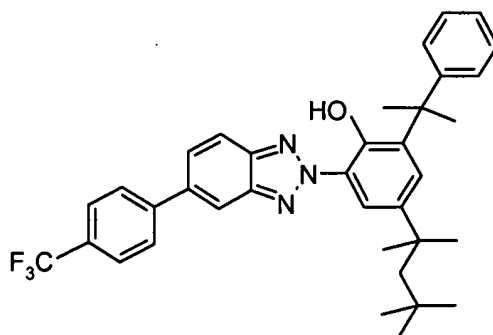
Trainor does not teach any 5-position substitution with aryl groups.

Alternatively, the present compounds are 5-aryl- or 5-(substituted aryl)-substituted benzotriazoles.

For example 5-(substituted phenyl)-substituted benzotriazoles:



For example, the elected specie of 5-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)-2-(2-hydroxy-3- $\alpha$ -cumyl-5-tert-octylphenyl)-2H-benzotriazole is:



Applicants submit that the present benzotriazoles are neither anticipated nor obvious over those of Trainor.

Further, Applicants point out that as Trainor qualifies as prior art only under 35 USC 102(e), that any 35 USC 103(a) as applied to 35 USC 102(e) rejections are moot as Trainor and the present application are commonly assigned.

The presently claimed invention and U.S. Pat. No. 6,296,674 were, at the time the invention was made, entirely assigned to Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corp. or were subject to an obligation of assignment to Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corp.

The assignment of U.S. Pat. No. 6,296,674 was recorded in the USPTO August 24, 2000, reel/frame 011147/0239.

The assignment of the present application was recorded in the USPTO February 23, 2001, reel/frame 011549/0220.

The 35 USC 103(a) rejections as applied to 35 USC 102(e) are overcome as the present application and the cited Trainor patent are commonly assigned to Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corp.

In light of the present discussion, Applicants submit that each of the claim rejections are addressed and are overcome.

The Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and to withdraw the present rejections.

Applicants submit that the present claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that they be found allowable.

Applicants further respectfully request that the withdrawn claims be rejoined as all compounds of formula (I) are novel and non-obvious and therefore no further search is required.

Respectfully submitted,



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